

REMARKS**Disposition of Claims**

Claims 18-43 are pending. Claims 18-43 are subject to a restriction requirement.

Restriction Requirement/Requirement for Election of Species

The Examiner advanced a restriction requirement. The Examiner restricted the pending claims into four groups.

Group I, Claims 18, 19, 22, 23 and 24-28 (to the extent readable on Claims 18 and 22), drawn to mono-metal compound.

Group II, Claims 20, 21, and 24-28 (to the extent readable on Claims 18 and 22), drawn to the binuclear compounds.

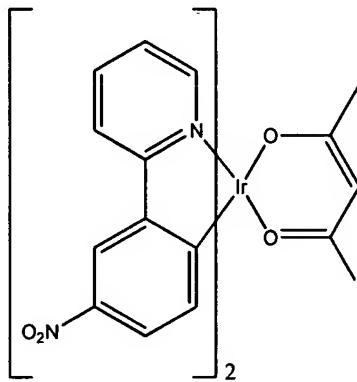
Group III, Claims 29-36, drawn to a conjugated, semiconjugated and nonconjugated polymer where the metal complex is bound to the polymer through the ligand.

Group IV, Claims 37-43, drawn to an electronic component.

Additionally, it is Applicants' understanding that the Examiner required an election of a single species for the purposes of searching.

Responsive to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, Claims 18, 19, 22, 23 and 24-28 (to the extent readable on Claims 18 and 22), drawn to mono-metal compound.

Applicants also select the species of Example 33, page 24:

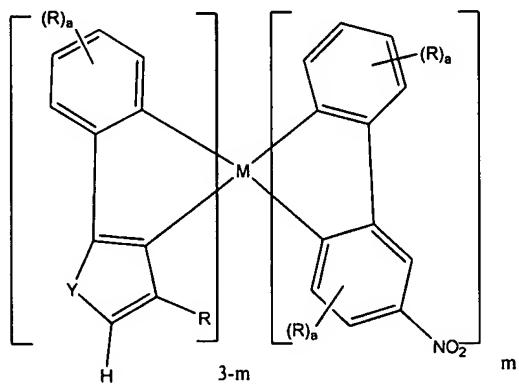


Claims readable on the elected species are Claims 22 and 23.

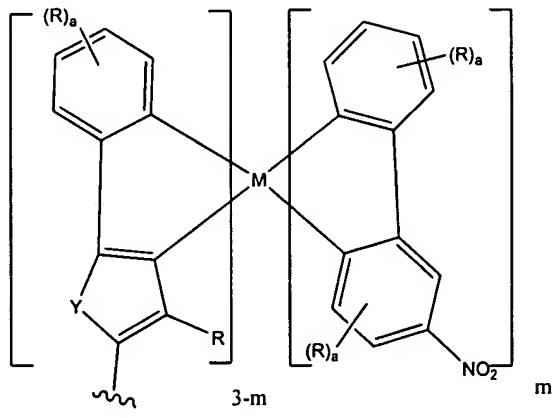
Traversal of the Restriction Between Groups I and III, and Groups I and IV

Applicants hereby traverse the restriction between Group I (Claims 18, 19, 22, 23, and 24-28) and Group III (Claims 29-36), and, separately Group I and Group IV (Claims 37-43) to the extent that the claims of Group III and IV encompass the subject matter of Claims 18 and 22.

Applicants first note that, to the extent that the chemical genera of Claim 18 (Group I) and Claim 29 (Group III) coincide, the subject matter of Claim 29 (Group III) is a polymer having one of the listed compounds covalently attached. For example, whereas Compound (1a) of Claim 18 (Group I) is given by a formula



a polymer of Claim 29 (Group III) that is based on a Compound (3a') can be represented by the following formula:



where the wavy line represent a point of covalent attachment to a polymer.

Thus, the claims of Groups I and III *do* have a common technical feature: the metal complexes depicted by the structural formulas in Claims 18, 22 and 29. Furthermore, since no reference of record teaches such metal complexes, this common technical feature is a *special* technical feature (PCT Rules 13.1 and 13.2). Accordingly, the condition for the unity of

invention between Groups I ad III is met (to the extent that the chemical genera of Claim 18 (Group I) and Claim 29 (Group III) coincide). Withdrawal of the restriction requirement with respect to Groups I and III (to the extent that the chemical genera of Claim 18 (Group I) and Claim 29 (Group III) coincide) is requested.

With respect to Group IV, Applicants note that the Claims 37, 39 and 40 are directed to electronic components that *comprise the compounds* (or polymers comprising such compounds) listed in Claims 18, 22 and 29, respectively. As such, Groups I, III and IV *do* share a common technical feature: the compounds of Claims 18, 22 and 29. By the same rationale as presented above, this common technical feature is a *special* technical feature. Accordingly, the condition for the unity of invention between Groups I, III and IV is met.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction between Groups I, III and IV (to the extent that the chemical genera of Claim 18 (Group I) and Claim 29 (Group III) coincide) is requested

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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